

**What is Claimed:**

1. A method of dynamically managing a multiprocessor computer system, comprising:
  - searching a storage area on multiprocessor computer system for at least one predetermined installed software application;
  - determining a set of executable processes that are related to the software application;
  - grouping the installed software application and the set of executable processes into an application group; and
  - managing an affinity mask for the application group.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of searching comprises searching for registry entries that contain at least partly qualified paths to directories where executables of each of said predetermined installed software applications reside.
3. The method of claim 2 comprising determining at least one application/directory relationship for a predetermined installed software applications; and
  - determining if the application directory contains an executable application for inclusion in the application group.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of searching registry keys includes the step of looking in at least one directory pointed to by the registry.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein the at least one directory comprises at least one of: "SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall"; "SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services"; and "SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\App Management\ARPCache".
6. The method of claim 2, wherein said step of searching registry keys includes the step of searching for a key that contains a fully qualified path to executables of said at least one predetermined installed software application.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein said step of searching for a key that contains a fully qualified path to executables of said at least one predetermined installed software

application comprises searching in at least one of the following directories: InstallLocation, ImagePath, and Services.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one predetermined installed software application comprises at least one of the following software applications: SAP, SQL 2000, IIS 5.0, Oracle, IIS 6.0, and Microsoft Exchange.

9. A system that dynamically managing the workload of a multiprocessor computer system, comprising:

an application locator software program that searches registry keys of the partitioned multiprocessor computer system for at least one predetermined installed software applications whose execution is to be limited to processors defined by an affinity mask; and

a user interface that presents any found predetermined installed software applications to the user for affinity masking of said at least one predetermined installed software application.

10. The system as in claim 9, wherein said application locator software program searches in at least one of the following directories pointed to by the registry:

"SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall",

"SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services", and

"SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\App Management\ARPCache".

11. The system of claim 9, wherein said application locator software program searches for a key that contains a path to executables of said at least one predetermined installed software application.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein said application locator software program searches in at least one of the following directories: InstallLocation, ImagePath, and Services.

13. The system as in claim 9, wherein said application locator software program searches for at least one of the following predetermined installed software applications: SAP, SQL 2000, IIS 5.0, Oracle, IIS 6.0, and Microsoft Exchange.

14. A computer-readable medium bearing computer readable instructions for a multiprocessor computer system for carrying out the acts, comprising:

searching a storage area on multiprocessor computer system for at least one predetermined installed software application;

instructions determining a set of executable processes that are related to the software application;

grouping the installed software application and the set of executable processes into an application group; and

managing an affinity mask for the application group.

15. The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein the act of searching comprises searching for registry entries that contain at least partly qualified paths to directories where executables of each of said predetermined installed software applications reside.

16. The computer-readable medium of claim 15 comprising instructions for determining at least one application/directory relationship for a predetermined installed software applications; and

instructions for determining if the application directory contains an executable application for inclusion in the application group.

17. The computer-readable medium of claim 15 wherein said step of searching registry keys includes the step of looking in at least one directory pointed to by the registry.

18. The computer-readable medium of claim 17 wherein the at least one directory comprises at least one of: "SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall"; "SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services"; and "SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\App Management\ARPCache".

19. The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein said step of searching registry keys includes the step of searching for a key that contains a fully qualified path to executables of said at least one predetermined installed software application.

20. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein said step of searching for a key that contains a fully qualified path to executables of said at least one predetermined installed software application comprises searching in at least one of the following directories: InstallLocation, ImagePath, and Services.